Visually handicapped job seekers

254. DR. DASARINARAYANA RAO : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the existing number of visually handicapped (blind) job seekers on the live register of the employment exchanges in Andhra Pradesh, gender-wise;

(b) the number of those who were provided with jobs through the employment exchanges during the last three years, year-wise; and

(c) what action Government propose to take to ensure that blind job seekers in the State get employment within a time frame ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) Number of visually handicapped job seekers, all of whom are not necessarily unemployed, on the Live Register of the Employment Exchanges (including Special Employment Exchange) in Andhra Pradesh as on 31-12-2001 was of the order of 6,566. Gender-wise information for various categories of disabled are not maintained.

(b) Number of visually handicapped job seekers rehabilitated (either through wage-paid employment or self-employment) economically through Employment Exchange/Vocational Rehabilitation Centres for Handicapped were of the order of 42, 45 and 59 during 1999, 2000 and 2001 respectively.

(c) Employment Exchanges do not create jobs nor do they implement any employment generation schemes. Employment Exchanges sponsor the candidate as per the Notification by the employer and this depends on the jobs created in the economy.

Abuse of core labour standards

255. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU) has alleged India for abuse of all core labour standards;